



UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20436

January 24, 2005

TO: Interested Parties -- Commercial Availability Reviews

FROM: Jackie W. Jones, Program Manager for
Commercial Availability Reviews
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SUBJECT: Commercial Availability Review on Knitted Apparel of Anti-Microbial
Elastomeric Filament Yarn (Investigation No. 332-465-001)

The U.S. International Trade Commission has initiated a review to provide advice concerning a petition filed under the "commercial availability" provisions of the United States-Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act (CBTPA), the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), and the Andean Trade Partnership and Drug Eradication Act (ATPDEA) on knitted apparel of certain anti-microbial elastomeric filament yarns. The yarns are classified in HTS subheadings 5402.49.90 (statistical reporting number 5402.49.9005) and 5404.10.80 (statistical reporting number 5404.10.8005) and are knitted into fabrics which are used to produce all types of knitted apparel. Detailed information on the yarns may be found on the website of the U.S. Department of Commerce, Office of Textiles and Apparel (OTEXA), at <http://otexa.ita.doc.gov/fr2005/comav38.htm>.

The petition was filed on behalf of Ge-Ray Fabrics, Inc., by Alston & Bird, LLP, and received by the Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA) on January 3, 2005. The petition alleges that the yarns cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner.

The Commission will conduct the review and provide advice under its investigation No. 332-465, *Commercial Availability of Apparel Inputs (2005): Effect of Providing Preferential Treatment to Apparel Imported from Sub-Saharan African, Caribbean Basin, and Andean Countries*, instituted at the request of the United States Trade Representative (USTR). The advice concerns the probable economic effect on U.S. producers, workers, and consumers of granting duty-free and quota-free treatment to apparel made in eligible countries from the specified fabrics, regardless of the source of the fabrics, should CITA determine that the fabrics cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner. The Commission will submit its advice to USTR in a classified report by February 14, 2005, and issue a public version of it soon thereafter.

The Commission invites interested parties to submit written statements (original and 3 copies) concerning issues to be addressed by the Commission in this review by January 31, 2005. Information on procedures for submitting written statements to the Commission can be found in its notice of investigation, which will be published in the *Federal Register* toward the end of this week.

Further information on this review can be obtained from Laura Rodriguez (202-205-3499); laura.rodriguez@usitc.gov. Information on the commercial availability investigation of the Commission can be obtained from its Program Manager (see above) and from its website at http://www.usitc.gov/ind_econ_ana/research_ana/pres_cong/332/short_supply/shortsupply_intro.htm. Information on commercial availability requests is also available from the U.S. Department of Commerce, which chairs CITA, on the OTEXA website at <http://otexa.ita.doc.gov/scripts/ca.exe/two>.